

### REMARKS

In the Office Action, claims 11-20 were allowed. Claims 2 and 7-10 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. This has been done by amending claims 1, 7, 9, and 10.

In particular, applicant has amended claim 1 to incorporate the features of claim 2, which originally depended from claim 1, into independent claim 1. Claim 1 is therefore in condition for allowance. Claims 3-6 variously depend from claim 1 and are therefore also in condition for allowance. Claim 2 has been canceled.

Claim 7 originally depended from independent claim 1. Claim 7 has been placed in independent form by incorporating the features of original claim 1 into claim 7. Claim 7 is therefore in condition for allowance. Claim 8 depends from claim 7 and is therefore also in condition for allowance.

Claims 9 and 10 originally each depended from claim 1. Claims 9 and 10 have been placed in independent form by incorporating the features of original claim 1 into claim 9 and into claim 10. Claims 9 and 10 are therefore in condition for

allowance.

The forgoing demonstrates that claims 1 and 3-20 are allowable. This patent application is therefore in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

 6/17/04

G. Victor Trey  
Reg. No. 36,294  
Attorney for Applicant  
Customer No. 36532